

COVID-19 HOUSING & UTILITY RELIEF

The information provided here does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice. This is for general informational purposes only.

Updated and Issued September 21, 2020.

HOUSING

Relief	How Long	Contact
 National Eviction Moratorium Issued by the Centers for Disease Control: No evictions for renters who provide to their landlord a signed declaration that they: Have used their best efforts to receive rental assistance; Expect to earn no more than \$99,000 in 2020 or more than \$198,000 if filing a joint tax return, received an Economic Impact Payment (stimulus check) in 2020, or were not required to report their 2019 income to the IRS; Are unable to make rent due to income loss, loss of work hours, or extraordinary medical costs; Are using their best efforts to make rental payments; and An eviction would result in homelessness or force them to double or triple up with other households. Tenants are still required to pay rent. Landlords can charge fees or interest for nonpayment of rent. Tenants can still be evicted for reasons other than not paying rent. * This moratorium applies, unless a state has a more protective measure.* 	Until December 31, 2020	 In Washington State, Northwest Justice Project CLEAR Hotline: 1-888-201-1014 In Oregon State, Oregon Law Center, Umatilla County: (541) 276-6685
 Eviction Moratorium, Washington State Residential Renters: No evictions, unless the tenant poses a significant risk to the immediate health, safety, or property of others. An owner can evict tenants if the owner plans to occupy or sell the property and provides at least 60 days' notice. No late fees or other charges related to nonpayment of rent allowed, when nonpayment occurred after February 29, 2020. Landlords cannot charge rents for properties tenants cannot enter because of COVID-19. A landlord cannot collect debt for unpaid rent occurring after February 29, 2020, unless the landlord offered a reasonable re-payment plan based on the tenant's individual financial and health circumstances and the tenant refused or failed to comply. Landlords cannot increase rents during this time. 	Until October 15, 2020	Washington State Attorney General's Office: https://fortress.wa.gov/atg/formhandler/ago/COVID19EvictionComplaintForm.aspx or Washington State Attorney General Civil Rights Division: (833) 660-4877
 Eviction Moratorium, Oregon State Residential Renters: No evictions for failure to pay rent, fees, or utilities. No late fees or nonpayment penalties allowed. Landlords can evict tenants for other violations of rental agreements during this time. Starting on October 1, 2020, tenants need to pay their rent each month according to their rental agreements. Tenants will have to pay back rent built up between April and September 2020, but they have until March 31, 2021 to pay. 	Until September 30, 2020	Oregon Governor's Office on Housing Issues: (503) 931-7773
In Washington State, contact your mortgage lender to discuss your options if you have a privately-backed mortgage and cannot make payments due to COVID-19.		Homeowners in distress in Washington may call Department of Financial Institutions: (877) 746-4334, or visit www.homeownership.wa.gov for assistance on how best to contact their mortgage servicer.
 Mortgage Foreclosure Moratorium, Oregon State: Lenders must defer payments if the lender and borrower do not agree on a loan mitigation, deferral, or other foreclosure avoidance measure. Borrowers must provide notice to lenders if they cannot make periodic installment payments because of income loss related to COVID-19. No fees, penalties, and charges related to nonpayment allowed during this time. Foreclosure proceedings are temporarily suspended during this time. 	Until December 31, 2020	Oregon Governor's Office on Housing Issues: (503) 931-7773
No Foreclosures for Homeowners and No Evictions for Renters in Single-Family Homes: • Applies to single-family homes with mortgages backed by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, the VA, and USDA Rural Housing, and single-family homes insured by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA). • This does not mean that mortgage and rent payments have been suspended. • A homeowner with a federally-backed mortgage experiencing economic hardship due to COVID-19 may request a forbearance for up to 180 days, which may be extended for another 180 days.	Until December 31, 2020	Contact the institution that finances and/or insures your mortgage.

UTILITIES

Relief	How Long	Contact
Cascade Natural Gas: Customers will not be disconnected for nonpayment. You can make payment arrangements. If you are experiencing economic hardship, you may be eligible for a grant of up to \$400.	Undetermined at this time	Cascade Natural Gas: (888) 522-1130 or https://www.cngc.com/
Columbia Rural Electric Association: Each case is handled on an individual basis. Call for additional information.		Columbia REA: (509) 526-4041 or http://www.columbiarea.com/
Ferellgas: • Each case is handled on an individual basis. Call for additional information.		Ferrellgas: (509) 525-8122
Milton-Freewater City Light & Power: Each case is handled on an individual basis. Call for additional information.		City of Milton-Freewater: (541) 938-5531
Pacific Power: Late payment fees and disconnections for non-payment are temporarily suspended. Contact your service provider to discuss your options.	Undetermined at this time	Pacific Power: (888) 221-7070 or https://www.pacificpower.net/

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Relief	How Long	Contact
Rental Assistance in Columbia County: If you cannot make rent payments due to economic hardship, you may be eligible for rental payment assistance to help you stay in your home.	Undetermined at this time	Project Timothy: (509) 382-2943 BMAC: (509) 529-4980
Rental Assistance in Walla Walla County: If you cannot make rent payments due to economic hardship, you may be eligible for up to 3 months of rental payment assistance to help you stay in your home.	Until December 31, 2020	BMAC: (509) 529-4980 Walla Walla Immigrant Rights Coalition: (509) 520-3834
Rental Assistance in Umatilla County: If you cannot make rent payments due to economic hardship, you may be eligible for rental payment assistance to help you stay in your home.	Undetermined at this time	CAPECO: https://form.jotform.com/201685995969177
Utility Assistance in Columbia County: If you cannot make utility payments due to economic hardship, you may be eligible for utility payment assistance.	Undetermined at this time	Project Timothy: (509) 382-2943 BMAC: (509) 529-4980
Utility Assistance in Walla Walla County: If you cannot make utility payments due to economic hardship, you may be eligible for utility payment assistance.	Undetermined at this time	BMAC: (509) 529-4980
Utility Assistance in Umatilla County: If you cannot make utility payments due to economic hardship, you may be eligible for utility payment assistance.	Undetermined at this time	CAPECO: (541) 276-1926

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS

- Walla Walla & Columbia Counties- YWCA: (509) 529-9922
- Umatilla County- Domestic Violence Services, Inc.: 1-800-833-1161